Arlington Height Saturday July 27th

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Dear Parents Brothers & Sisters
I have so much two say that I thought
I would sende two letters insted of One
ours Regt. was orderd two go to Fairfax Court
house but at the defete of ours forces wee was orderd
two stay here and guarde the brige and fort Cockrin
so as two keep the solders out of Washington
the orders was given for eight out of each
Company two go over and take the tents
left hande fetch over in the baggy waggons
there is three waggons for each Compt and I went
over with the rest two ours incampment at
Camp Douglas wee took all of the tents left
and filed them in the waggons and come over
and at night wee had them all up on the
hill by fort Cockrin it is a verry plesent
place a rounde here and ours incampment
here is plesent there is a peach orchard
here and wee go and lay under the trees

thare is a nother house in our Camp it is
a log farm house and is white wash the Doct
& Quartermaster are use it I Thurday all of the
three month Rigt pass here thay goe home
the 69 from N.Y. Born Mich and lots of more
Rigt with thair baggig waggons thay went over
to Washington but the Government wouldent
let them goe and thay hade to come back and are
Encampt around us some are five or six days over
thare three month the 69 Rigt I think will goe
home thare are all cut up and thair is only
four hundred of them left the officers of about all of
Rigt was kile in the fight our Michigan Rigt
that pass thar was only one Capt left in the
Rigt wen we are detaild two doe gaurd dutie
here and it takes about half of Rigt two
gaurd we lot gaurds down two the ferry boats
and the next the Bridge and the archway and
the next the fort and some have two chop
wood in the woods and some of us two
gaurd the presoners that thay have got
under the seller of a barn thar are a lot
of rebbles that has been taken presoners

wee have got a since Quartermaster that belongs
too the southern army & I suppose that you
have herd all about the fight at Bulls run
and it will doe you now good iff I told
you but I suppose that I coud tell you
more than all of the papers can wee have
got acouple of brothers that belong too the
Ellverth they was in the fight and are
reported Zouaves kill they are the funnest fellers
that I ever seen there are in ours Compt
and I ~~am~~ have got aquainted with them
evry one can git a horse here they have
have got loose when the fight was at Bullsrun
we have got five or six horses that were
out running loose in the woods and the boys
ride all round on them the Zouaves went
away last night for two goe too their
Regt at Alexander they like ours Regt
first strate and hated too leave ous I
expect that their will be some fighting
soon they say that the rebbles are acoming
tord here and wee are cutting all of the
woods down about a half of ouse Regt. was

[illegible] the woods all night and every night a lot of ous go a chopping in woods and thar is some a chopping all of the time in the woods the other night I went out with the pickets guards, on the road too Falls Church and wea layd in the woods sides of the road on ours bellies all night a waching for some of the rebbles but wea did not see eney thirteen of ours Pickets guards on Horse back come as fur as the Capt of ours guards was and wanted too over off ther men hada pass ous and wea told them that thar hadent and thay turnt and went back thay was after two spies wea hallted a Cuvery man on Horse back and we told us that he was sent as a messenger he sed that we and ten more was through the woods and thay seen a lot of rebbles on horse back and thay herd the Cutey holler halt and thay got off of thar horses and puld the fench down and ~~go~~ went in a house a bout a mile and a half from ous we wich that thay would pass by ous so that wea could give them a bruss with ours little rifles which wea got the day wea [illegible] [illegible] when wea was a coming down the road next morning Carlincorts balloon cum down right by ous thar was nobodie no bodie in it it had got away from it burning I got my pay which was sixteen dollars and 1/2 I send 7/1/2 twenty shillings apiece too the boys Charley Arther & Edward too dey what thay want with it no i know thay will be please with it I suppose [illegible] I [illegible] Yours J. T. Beckler